Terrorist activities following hanging of Kehar Singh and Satwant Singh

1001. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the terrorist activities, indicating the number of casualties, following the hanging of Shri Kehar Singh and Shri Satwant Singh, involved in the murder of the former Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in a number of cases the terrorists have hanged the victims to death; and

(c) what effective steps Government have taken to effectively curb these activities and to bring the culprits to book and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) During the period 6th January, 1989 to 26th February, 1989, 169 persons have been killed in 110 incidents of murder shoot-out by terrorists in Punjab. The deceased include 12 persons who were hanged to death.

(c) The steps taken to curb terrorism in Punjab include erection of fence in the most vulnerable stretches of border, strengthening of security forces and supply of modern weapons and equipment to them to detect intruders/border crossers, strict checking of passengers at the border, creation of additional police districts, conducting of raids on the hide-outs of terrorists to arrest them and their harbourers and to flush out illicit arms and ammunition, setting up of village protection force pickets and involvement of ex-servicemen and villagers in Village Protection Groups.

As a result of action taken by security forces 63 terrorists have been killed in encounters and 339 arrested during the period 7th January, 1989 to 26th February, 1989.

Arrest of proclaimed terrorists

1002. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of proclaimed terrorists have been arrested during the last three months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of them have escaped from custody; if so, under what circumstances; and

(d) whether some of the terrorists were killed in encounters; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Development of National Parks

1003. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRON-

MENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for the development of 32 National Parks was formulated during 1988;

(b) if so, what are the details of the National Parks to be developed and the financial provision made therefor; and

(c) what progress has been made so far in this respect pertaining to different National Parks?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (c) A centrally sponsored scheme entitled 'Assistance to States for Development of National Parks' under which Central funds are provided to those National Parks which are under the complete control of the State Wildlife Wings, has been in operation since 1985-86. Similarly, those national parks that are Tiger Reserves are funded under the scheme Project Tiger. During 1988, 46 national parks have been supported under the two schemes with funds totalling Rs. 458.88 lakhs. The main items supported in national parks include *inter-alia* improving management capacity, habitat improvement, protection, interpretation and nature education, research and improvement of communication. Work on the items supported is in progress.

Development of sanctuaries

1004. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a plan for development of 105 sanctuaries during 1988;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what progress has so far been made towards implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) to (c) A centrally sponsored scheme entitled 'Assistance to States for Development of Sanctuaries' under which Central funds are provided to those sanctuaries which are under the complete control of the State Wildlife Wings, has been in operation since 1985-86. Similarly, those sanctuaries that are Tiger Reserves are funded under the scheme Project Tiger. During 1988, 117 sanctuaries have been supported under the two schemes with funds totalling Rs. 431.24 lakhs. The main items supported in wildlife sanctuaries include *inter-alia* improving management capacity, habitat improvement, protection, interpretation and nature education, research and improvement of communication. Work on the items supported is in progress.

Promotion of environmental research

1005. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any concrete step to encourage promotion of environmental research to contain pollution in large industrial and metropolitan cities; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The list of research projects sanctioned by the Government is enclosed as statement.